

04-12-04

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(nts)  
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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

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**PETITION TO ACCEPT UNINTENTIONALLY DELAYED PAYMENT OF  
MAINTENANCE FEE IN AN EXPIRED PATENT (37 CF 1.378(c))**

Docket Number (Optional)

023471.0003US1

Mail to: Mail Stop Petition  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Fax: (703) 872-9306RECEIVED  
APR 14 2004

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

NOTE: If information or assistance is needed in completing this form, please contact Petitions Information  
at (703) 305-9282.Patent No. 5908997 Application Number 08/879678Issue Date 06/01/1999 Filing Date 06/23/1997CAUTION: Maintenance fee (and surcharge, if any) payment must correctly identify: (1) the patent  
number (or reissue patent number, if a reissue) and (2) the application number of the  
actual U.S. application (or reissue application) leading to issuance of that patent to  
ensure the fee(s) is/are associated with the correct patent. 37 CFR 1.366(c) and (d).**Also complete the following information, if applicable**

The above - identified patent:

☐ is a reissue of original Patent No. \_\_\_\_\_, original issue date \_\_\_\_\_;  
original application number \_\_\_\_\_,  
original filing date \_\_\_\_\_.☐ resulted from the entry into the U.S. under 35 U.S.C. 371 of international  
application \_\_\_\_\_ filed on \_\_\_\_\_.**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))**I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with  
the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope  
addressed to Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.4/8/04  
Date  
Signature

Collene Houston

Typed or printed name of person signing Certificate

04/13/2004 SZENDIE1 00000009 5908997

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2550.00 OP

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.378(c). The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the  
USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 1 hour to complete,  
including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on  
the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and  
Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS  
ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Petition, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

## 1. SMALL ENTITY

☐ Patentee claims, or has previously claimed, small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.

## 2. LOSS OF ENTITLEMENT TO SMALL ENTITY STATUS

☒ Patentee is no longer entitled to small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g).

## 3. MAINTENANCE FEE (37 CFR 1.20(e)-(g))

The appropriate maintenance fee must be submitted with this petition, unless it was paid earlier.

NOT Small Entity			Small Entity		
Amount	Fee	(Code)	Amount	Fee	(Code)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> \$ 910	3 1/2 yr fee	(1551)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	3 1/2 yr fee	(2551)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	7 1/2 yr fee	(1552)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	7 1/2 yr fee	(2552)
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	11 1/2 yr fee	(1553)	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ _____	11 1/2 yr fee	(2553)

MAINTENANCE FEE BEING SUBMITTED \$910

## 4. SURCHARGE

The surcharge required by 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) of \$ 1,640 (Fee Code 1558) must be paid as a condition of accepting unintentionally delayed payment of the maintenance fee.

SURCHARGE BEING SUBMITTED \$1,640

## 5. MANNER OF PAYMENT

☒ Enclosed is a check for the sum of \$2,550.

☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. \_\_\_\_\_ the sum of \$ \_\_\_\_\_. A duplicate copy of this authorization is attached.

☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.

## 6. AUTHORIZATION TO CHARGE ANY FEE DEFICIENCY

☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge any maintenance fee, surcharge or petition deficiency to Deposit Account No. 502191. A duplicate copy of this authorization is attached.

## 7. OVERPAYMENT

As to any overpayment made please

- ☒ Credit to Deposit Account No. 502191
- OR
- ☐ Send refund check.

**WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.**

## 8. STATEMENT


The delay in payment of the maintenance fee to this patent was unintentional.

9. PETITIONER(S) REQUEST THAT THE DELAYED PAYMENT OF THE MAINTENANCE FEE BE ACCEPTED AND THE PATENT REINSTATED.

8 April 2004  
Date

714 641-5100  
Telephone Number

30,455  
Registration Number, if applicable

  
Signature(s) of Petitioner(s)

Norman Carte  
Typed or printed name(s)

P.O. Box 1950, 611 Anton Blvd., 14th  
Address

Floor, Costa Mesa, CA 92628-1950  
Address

37 CFR 1.378(d) states: "Any petition under this section must be signed by an attorney or agent registered to practice before the Patent and Trademark Office, or by the patentee, the assignee, or other party in interest."

## ENCLOSURES:

- ☒ Maintenance Fee payment
- ☒ Surcharge under 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2) (fee for filing the maintenance fee petition)
- ☐ \_\_\_\_\_